

the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, with the rank and status of Ambassador.

Victoria Nuland, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (European and Eurasian Affairs).

Daniel A. Sepulveda, of Florida, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for International Communications and Information Policy in the Bureau of Economic, Energy, and Business Affairs and U.S. Coordinator for International Communications and Information Policy.

William Ira Althen, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission for a term of six years expiring August 30, 2018.

Lafe E. Solomon, of Maryland, to be General Counsel of the National Labor Relations Board for a term of four years.

Chai Rachel Feldblum, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission for a term expiring July 1, 2018.

Daniel M. Tangherlini, of the District of Columbia, to be Administrator of General Services.

Katherine Archuleta, of Colorado, to be Director of the Office of Personnel Management for a term of four years.

John H. Thompson, of the District of Columbia, to be Director of the Census for the remainder of the term expiring December 31, 2016.

2 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

3 Army nominations in the rank of general.

2 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Foreign Service, and Navy.

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Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S3874**

Record Votes: Five record votes were taken today. (Total—139)

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Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 6:33 p.m., until 12:30 p.m. on Friday, May 24, 2013. (For Senate's program, see the re-

marks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S3879.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AGENCIES

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2014 for various agencies within the Department of Agriculture, after receiving testimony from Darci Vetter, Acting Under Secretary, Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services, Ann Mills, Acting Under Secretary, Natural Resources and Environment, Doug O'Brien, Acting Under Secretary, Rural Development, and Michael Young, Budget Officer, all of the Department of Agriculture.

NOMINATION

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Penny Pritzker, of Illinois, to be Secretary of Commerce, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senators Durbin and Kirk, testified and answered questions in her own behalf.

EXTRACTION OF GAS FROM SHALE

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the extraction of gas from shale, focusing on current practices within the industry and environmental concerns to be addressed, after receiving testimony from Tim Spisak, Deputy Assistant Director of Minerals and Realty Management, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior; Stan Belieu, Nebraska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission Deputy Director, Sidney, on behalf of the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission and the Ground Water Protection Council; Barry T. Smitherman, Texas Railroad Commission Chairman, Austin; Jack Williams, XTO Energy, Fort Worth, Texas; Chuck Davidson, Noble Energy, Inc., Alan Crain, Baker Hughes Incorporated, and Marc Edwards, Halliburton, all of Houston, Texas; Clay Bretches, Anadarko Petroleum Corporation, The Woodlands, Texas; David L. Porges, EQT Corporation, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Mark Brownstein, Environmental Defense Fund US Climate and Energy Program, and Amy Mall, Natural Resources Defense Council, both of New York, New York; Deborah J. Nardone, Sierra Club Beyond Natural Gas Campaign, San Francisco, California; and Donald S. Garvin, Jr., West Virginia Environmental Council, Buckhannon.

NOMINATION

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Allison M. Macfarlane, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senator Cardin, testified and answered questions in her own behalf.

**UNITED STATES-EUROPEAN UNION
ECONOMIC RELATIONS**

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine United States-European Union economic relations, focusing on crisis and opportunity, after receiving testimony from Robert D. Hormats, Under Secretary of State for Economic Growth, Energy and the Environment; Lael Brainard, Under Secretary of the Treasury for International Affairs; and Jim Kolbe, The German Marshall Fund of the United States, and Douglas Rediker, Peterson Institute for International Economics, both of Washington, D.C.

**IMPROVING RURAL FEDERAL HEALTH
CARE**

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on the Efficiency and Effectiveness of Federal Programs and the Federal Workforce concluded a hearing to examine improving Federal health care in rural America, focusing on developing the workforce and building partnerships, after receiving testimony from Robert A. Petzel, Under Secretary of Veterans Affairs for Health, Veterans Health Administration; Yvette Roubideaux, Acting

Director, Indian Health Service, and Tom Morris, Associate Administrator, Office of Rural Health Policy, Health Resources and Services Administration, both of the Department of Health and Human Services; Matt Kuntz, National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Montana, Helena; and Ralph Ibson, Wounded Warrior Project, Washington, DC.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Charles R. Breyer, of California, Rachel Elise Barkow, of New York, and William H. Pryor, Jr., of Alabama, all to be a Member of the United States Sentencing Commission.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Derek Anthony West, of California, to be Associate Attorney General, Department of Justice, and Valerie E. Caproni, of the District of Columbia, who was introduced by Senator Gillibrand, and Vernon S. Broderick, both to be a United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee recessed subject to the call.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 89 public bills, H.R. 2122–2210; and 8 resolutions, H. Res. 234–241, were introduced. **Pages H2952–55**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H2958–59**

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Yoder to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H2915**

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest chaplain, Pastor Frank Hampton, Jr., Church of God, Jackson, Michigan. **Page H2915**

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by voice vote. **Pages H2915, H2940**

Smarter Solutions for Students Act: The House passed H.R. 1911, to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to establish interest rates for new loans made on or after July 1, 2013, by a recorded vote of 221 ayes to 198 noes, Roll No. 183.

Pages H2926–40

Rejected the Sinema motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Education and the Workforce with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a yeas-and-nays vote of 194 yeas to 223 nays, Roll No. 182.

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